



**DISTRICT
COURT
OF GUAM**

**2017
REPORT**



Please Join Us In Extending a Warm Hafa Adai To Our Guests of Honor



Hon. M. Margaret McKeown was appointed to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit in 1998 by President Bill Clinton. Judge McKeown was the first female partner with the law firm of Perkins Coie in Seattle, Washington, and in Washington, D.C.

Judge McKeown is a frequent speaker on judicial ethics, having served on the Judicial Conference of the U.S. Codes of Conduct Committee the ethics committee for the federal judiciary for more than a decade, including as the committee's chair. She has also lectured and taught extensively on judicial administration, international law, litigation, constitutional law, and intellectual property in Latin America, Asia, and Europe. She is co-author of *Trial Tactics in Trade Secret Litigation, Intellectual Property Counseling and Litigation* (Matthew Bender), and a number of other books.

Judge McKeown has been recognized for her outstanding work. She received the American Bar Association's Margaret Brent Women Lawyers of Achievement Award, the Federal Bar Association's Community Service Award, and the Girl Scouts' Cool Women Award.

Judge McKeown received her Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Wyoming in 1972, graduating Phi Beta Kappa, and her Juris Doctor from Georgetown University Law Center in 1975.



David S. Addington is Senior Vice President, General Counsel, and Chief Legal Officer at the National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB). Mr. Addington provides legal advice and assistance to the NFIB President and staff on matters of corporate governance and operation as well as legal issues relating to legislative, policy, political, and regulatory affairs.

Prior to joining NFIB, Mr. Addington was group vice president for research at The Heritage Foundation. He has held senior positions in the federal government, where he served as an assistant general counsel of the Central Intelligence Agency and as special assistant and then deputy assistant to the president for legislative affairs at the White House during the Reagan administration. He went on to serve in the Department of Defense as special assistant to the secretary and deputy secretary of defense and then as general counsel during the administration of President George H.W. Bush. Mr. Addington later served as counsel and then chief of staff to Vice President Richard B. Cheney.

Mr. Addington received a bachelor of science degree in foreign service from the Georgetown University School of Foreign Service and a law degree from the Duke University School of Law. (source: <http://www.nfib.com>)

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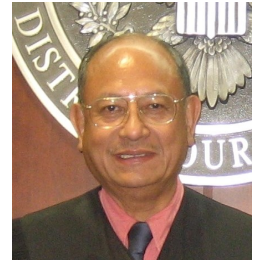
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Frances Tydingco-Gatewood
Chief Judge

District Court of Guam

4th Floor, U.S. Courthouse
520 West Soledad Avenue
Hagåtña, Guam 96910



Joaquin V.E. Manibusan, Jr.
U.S. Magistrate Judge

Buenas yan Hafa Adai!

On behalf of the District Court of Guam, U.S. Magistrate Judge Joaquin V.E. Manibusan, Jr. and I welcome you to the 2018 District Conference! We hope that you enjoy the presentations and leave with something that may help you in your practice of the law. The overall theme of today's conference will be "Doing Business in Guam," and our guest speakers and panelists will present a variety of tips about providing legal advice to businesses on Guam.

Our keynote speakers will be Mr. David S. Addington, Senior Vice President, General Counsel, and the Chief Legal Counsel for the National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB) and the Honorable M. Margaret McKeown, a Circuit Judge for the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.

Mr. Addington will speak about issues related to taxes, insurance, and federal regulations, and also share his experiences in the White House and his work as an attorney with a variety of national issues such as taxes, insurance, healthcare, and federal regulations. Judge McKeown will give us a report on the Ninth Circuit and, later in the day, provide a presentation of the evolving ethical issues relating to "fighting fair," such as confidentiality, privilege and work product, conflicts of interest, disclosure obligations, social media and electronic discovery. She'll also be on a panel that discusses ethical issues related to representing organizations, such as corporations or agencies.

As you know, with every District Conference we host, we include an Annual Report. We invite you to peruse the pages here to learn more about the work of the court over the last year. As you might know, you can now pay filing fees online, for example. Several of our Probation Officers have volunteered to be armed and have qualified to do so through rigorous training.

Finally, we are fortunate to have had a dedicated Ninth Circuit Lawyer Representative in Rodney Jacob, and we cannot thank him enough for the service he has rendered to the court over these last eight years. Cynthia Ecube, who has helped us host our annual conferences for many years, will be taking his place as our new Lawyer Representative. We also look forward to working with the new President of the Guam Bar Association, Jacque Terlaje, who has already contributed many hours of work to today's conference. We thank them all for their endless support, and we are eager to work with them in service to our community in the year ahead.

Office of the Clerk of Court

The Clerk's Office staff were quite busy during 2017 and by the end of the year several initiatives were completed that are to the benefit of the bench, bar, and public.

Handbook for Pro Se Litigants

In February 2017, the Clerk's Office released a new, locally developed publication for self-represented litigants entitled "*Filing a Civil Case on Your Own Behalf*." This 20-page document describes the filing and procedures associated with civil actions in a way that is easy to understand. It may be found on the court's website or may be obtained over the counter.

Judiciary Integrated Financial Management System (JIFMS)

The court migrated to an upgraded cloud-based Financial Management System in March 2017. JIFMS interfaces with U.S. Treasury systems and other Judiciary operational systems which will eliminate duplicative entry and strengthen internal controls.

Online Payment of Fees

In March 2017, the court began to accept Visa, MasterCard, American Express, and Discover credit card payments online for filing fees associated with bankruptcy cases and civil actions. Automated Clearing House payments from checking accounts are also accepted.

Bankruptcy Seminar

On September 11, 2017, the court hosted a three-hour bankruptcy seminar for members of the Guam Bar Association with Region 15 Assistant U.S. Trustee Curtis B. Ching and Chapter 13 Case Trustee Howard Hu. Topics included "*What Can Chapter 13 Do for (or to) You?*," and "*The New Chapter 13 Plan - How it Works and What to Watch For*." Members of the bar earned up to three hours of Continuing Legal Education (CLE) for participating in the event.

Courtroom upgrades

In September 2017, the court initiated a contract with a stateside engineering company to overhaul the audio and video systems in its fourth floor courtroom. This work should commence by the summer of 2018 and will greatly enhance the ability of the bar to present digital evidence in that courtroom.

Updated Local Rules of Practice

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2071, and after appropriate public notice and an opportunity for comment, the court adopted updated General and Bankruptcy Local Rules of Practice, effective December 1, 2017.

General Rule GNLR 1.1 has been updated to include the Guam Daily Post as a newspaper of record for the court. GNLR 17.1 now explicitly includes the Federal Public Defender and his/her assistants as Attorneys for the United States for purposes of admission to the bar of the court.

The Bankruptcy Rules have been updated to conform to changes in the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure and to accommodate a new standard Chapter 13 Plan form with attachments. A new standard Objection to Claim form has also been adopted by the court. Another notable change is that in Chapter 13 cases, an order dismissing the case for failure to file a plan shall include



Jeanne G. Quinata
Clerk of Court

an 180-day bar to refile a subsequent petition.

Information Technology

Over the course of the year the court's Information Technology staff implemented several projects which will make the court's network and software systems more secure and stable. These include upgrading network firewall devices, implementing web content filtering, and upgrading the court's Jury Management System.

The court moved its electronic filing servers from its computer room in Guam to an installation in the continental United States in March 2017. Electronic filers should perceive an increase in speed and performance when filing documents electronically.

Main Telephone Numbers

- Clerk's Office: (671) 969-4500
- Chambers of the Chief Judge: (671) 969-4501
- Chambers of the U.S. Magistrate Judge: (671) 969-4507
- U.S. Probation & Pretrial Services Office: (671) 969-4600

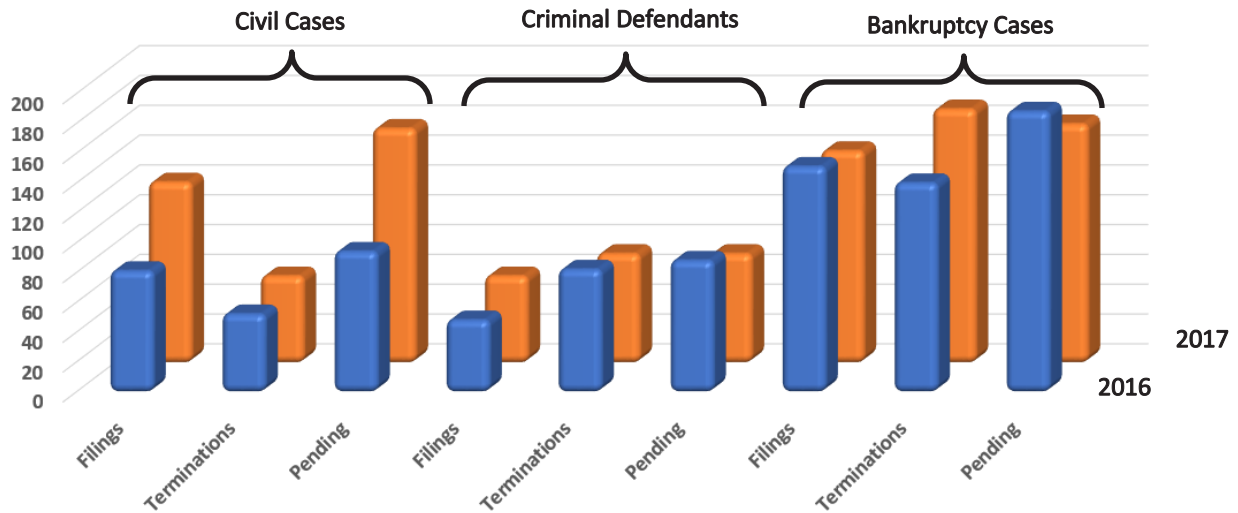
Fax Numbers

- Clerk's Office: (671) 969-4488
- Chambers of the Chief Judge: (671) 969-4492
- Chambers of the U.S. Magistrate Judge: (671) 969-4486
- U.S. Probation & Pretrial Services Office: (671) 969-4601

Case and Workload Statistics

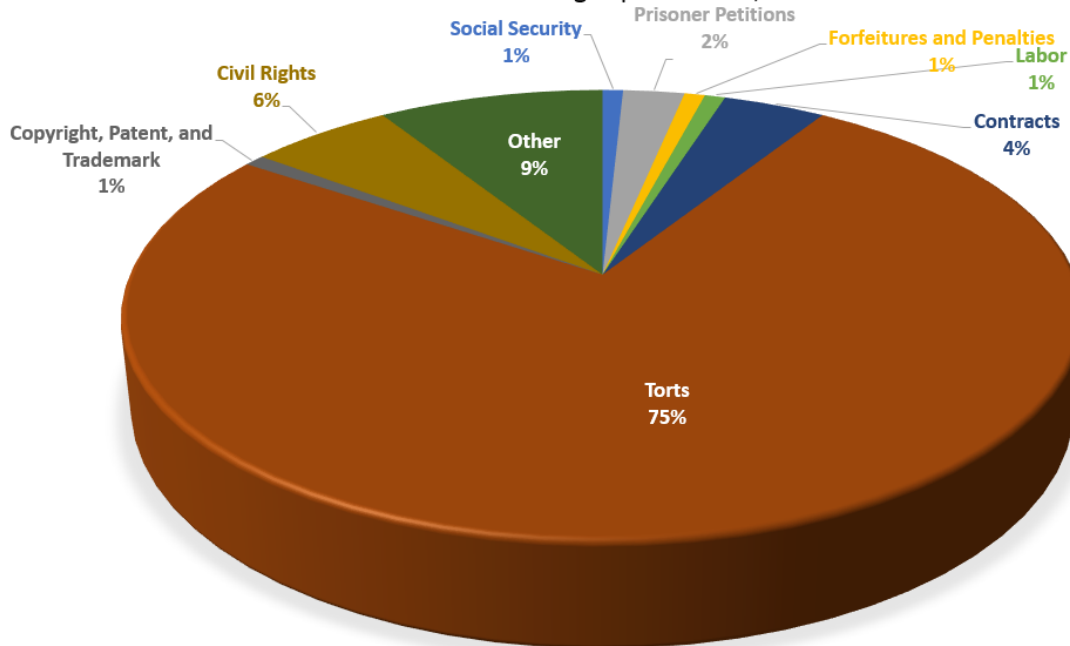
District Caseload Measures

12 months ending September 30

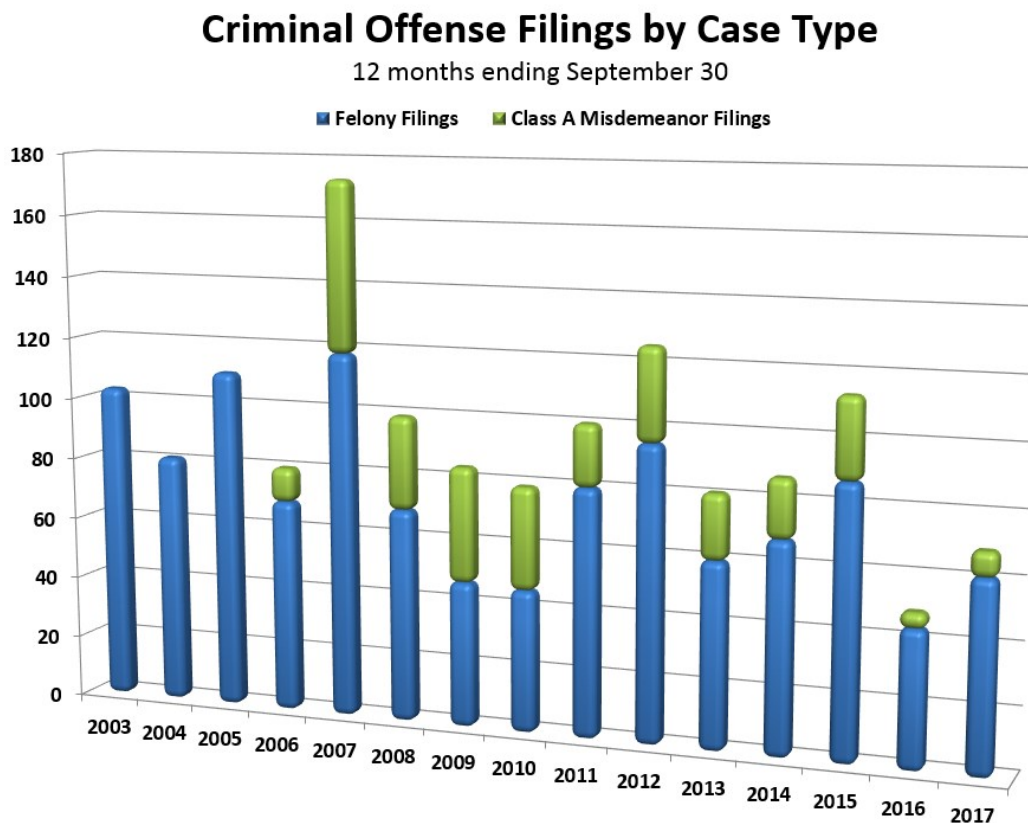
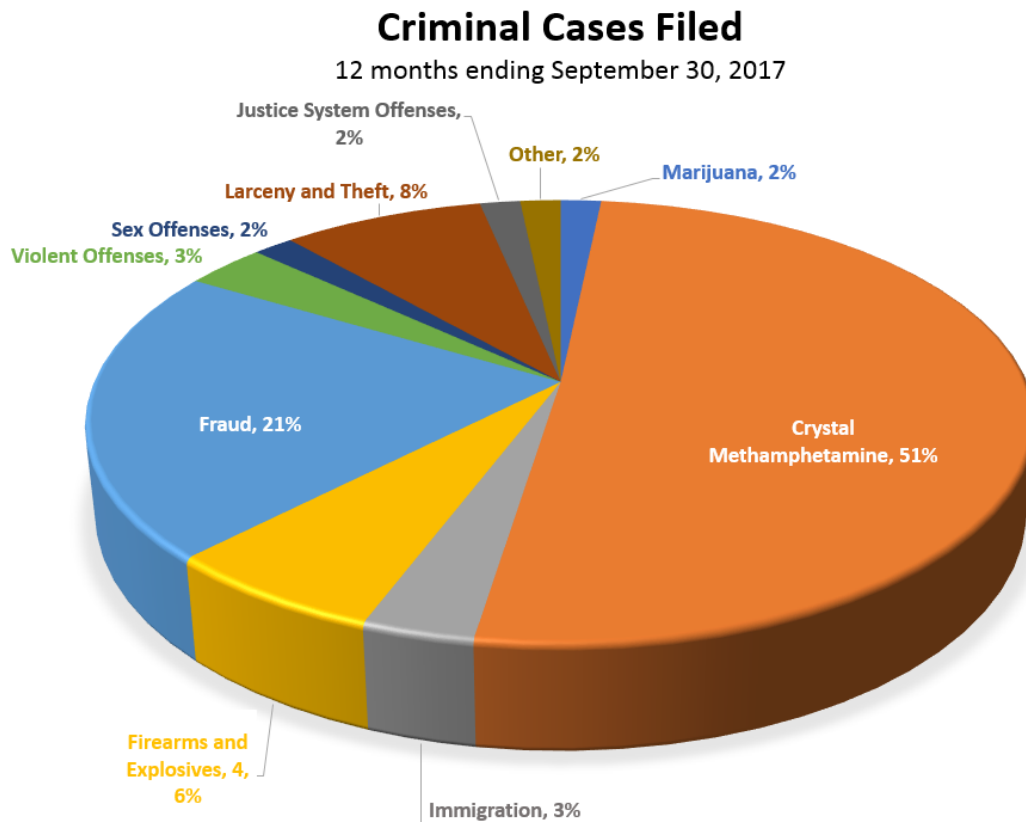


Civil Cases Filed

12 months ending September 30, 2017



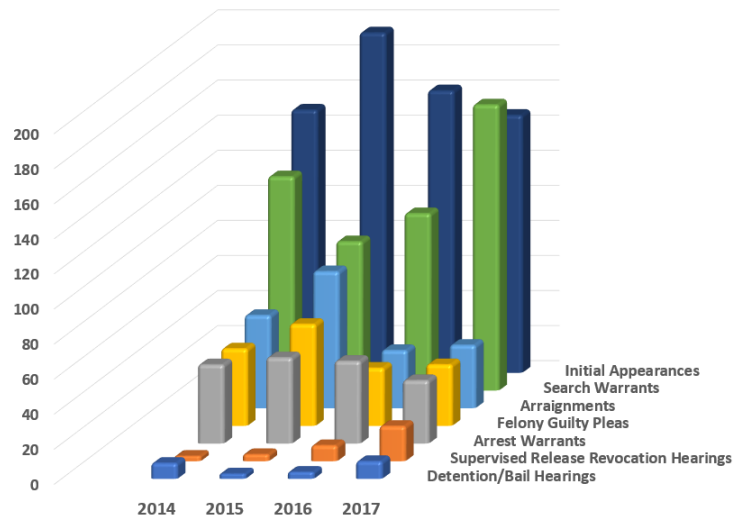
Case and Workload Statistics



Case and Workload Statistics

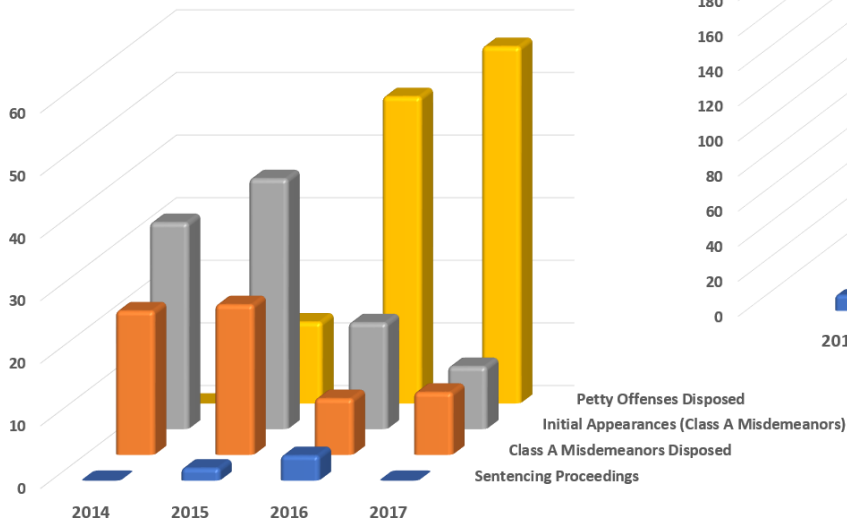
Magistrate Felony Proceedings

12 months ending September 30



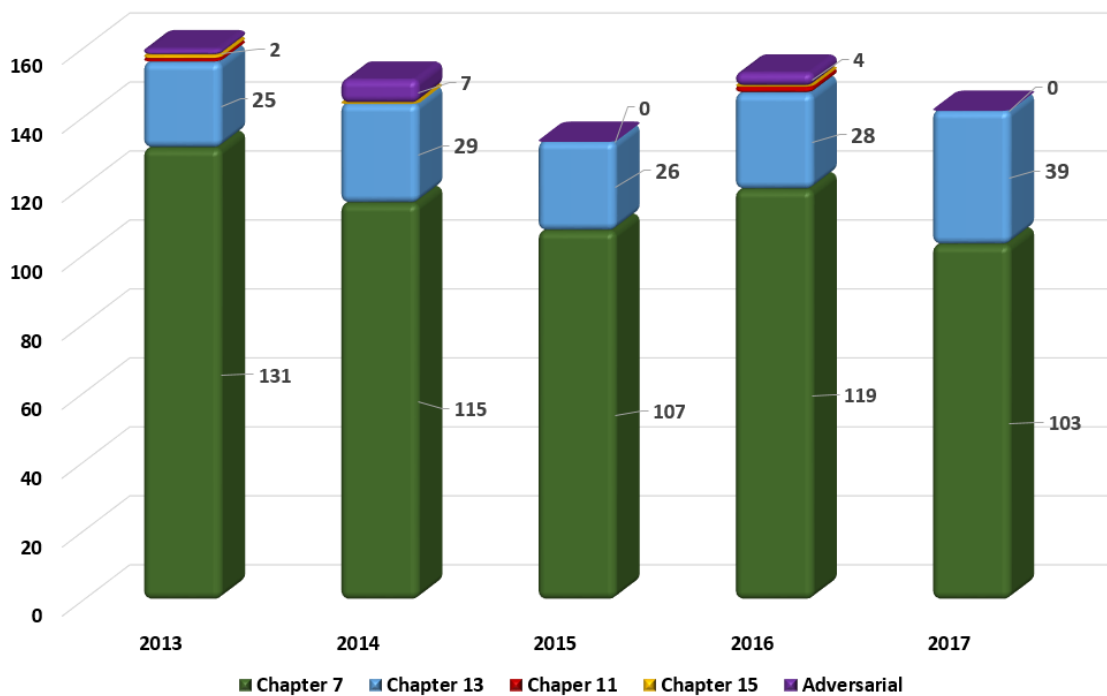
Other Magistrate Proceedings

12 months ending September 30



Bankruptcy Filings

12 months ending September 30



U.S. Probation & Pretrial Services Office

Staffing

After 22 years of service, Specialist U.S. Probation and Pretrial Services Officer Maria Cruz retired on October 26, 2017. Throughout the years Maria approached her work with a standard of excellence that was truly exemplary. She would always do more than what was required. She was a positive addition to the office. She was dependable, of high character with a strong work ethic. Although Maria will be greatly missed, we wish her safe travels as she begins her next chapter in life following her love of travel.

In late February 2017, Officer Ricardo Leon Guerrero traveled to the National Training Academy and successfully completed a two-week course certifying him as a Firearms Instructor. We are proud to announce that he is now the Lead Firearms Instructor for the districts of Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands (NMI).

In March 2017, Officer Melinda Brunson Santos was selected as the Ninth Circuit Representative to serve on the Probation and Pretrial Services Information Technology Working Group. The Group is tasked with assisting the Administrative Office to develop a strategic vision for probation and pretrial services products; provide feedback and guidance on issues, including communication and prioritization of IT development; and

assist the Case Management Systems Office and the Probation and Pretrial Services Office in the PACTS Replacement Effort.

In June 2017, U.S. Probation Officer Assistant Juanette David-Atalig traveled to Andersen, Indiana, where she was certified to manage Location Monitoring (LM) cases under the Location Monitoring Program through Behavioral Interventions (BI).

The U.S. Probation Office in the NMI welcomed its first U.S. Probation Officer Intern in August 2017, Jacquelin Wonenburg, a sociology/criminal justice student from Boise State University (BSU) in Boise, Idaho. She has been able to spend two semesters with the office, and has become an important and contributing member of the team.

U.S. Probation Officer Trina Duenas successfully completed a two-week course certifying her as an Officer Safety Instructor at the National Training Academy in December 2017. Recognized as exemplifying outstanding performance in all areas of the course, Officer Duenas won the prestigious Wendy Koontz Safety Award. She is now designated Lead Safety Officer for the districts.

In efforts to become armed districts, the Chief U.S. Probation Officer authorized Guam U.S. Probation



Kim R. Walmsley
Chief U.S. Probation and Pretrial
Services Officer

Officers to participate in firearms training conducted by firearms instructors from the District of Hawaii and from the National Training Academy. From February 14-17, 2017, Lisa Lambeth, National Firearms Instructor from the Administrative Office of the U.S. Court's National Training Academy, conducted firearms training with the District of Guam, with the assistance of Derek Kim, Lead Firearms Instructor for the District of Hawaii, John Hisashima, District Firearms Instructor for the District of Hawaii, and our own District Firearms Instructor Gregory F. Arriola. The training conducted involved qualification, shooter diagnostics, tactical pistol applications, tactical movements, and Multiple Interactive Learning/ Training Objectives (MILO) Simulator scenarios. It should be noted that this was the first time a trainer from the Academy came to the region. Trainer Lambeth's feedback was that she was extremely impressed with the officers' proficiency. Her comments reflected the level of training provided by former Lead Firearms Instructor, Supervisory U.S. Probation Officer John San Nicolas throughout the years.

From June 8-10, 2017, Lead Firearms Instructor Derek Kim returned to Guam and conducted firearms and Non-Lethal Training Ammunition (NLTA) training with the districts,



U.S. Probation & Pretrial Services staff members from Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands.

assisted by Lead Firearms Instructor Ricardo J.P. Leon Guerrero, and District Firearms Instructor Gregory F. Arriola. The training conducted involved tactical pistol applications, tactical movement, shooting from and moving from cover, a qualification, and NLTA training, with force on force, use of cover, and scenarios.

In 2017, Lead Firearms Instructor Ricardo J.P. Leon Guerrero and District Firearms Instructor Gregory F. Arriola also conducted several other firearms training events to prepare officers to be armed and to qualify with the Glock Model 17 and 19, 9mm firearms,

which were obtained via the Glock Exchange Program in June 2017. All U.S. Probation Officers who have volunteered to be armed have qualified.

In November 2017, Deputy U.S. Marshal Mark Patricio from the U.S. Marshals Service conducted First Aid CPR/AED training as well as how to properly apply a tourniquet.

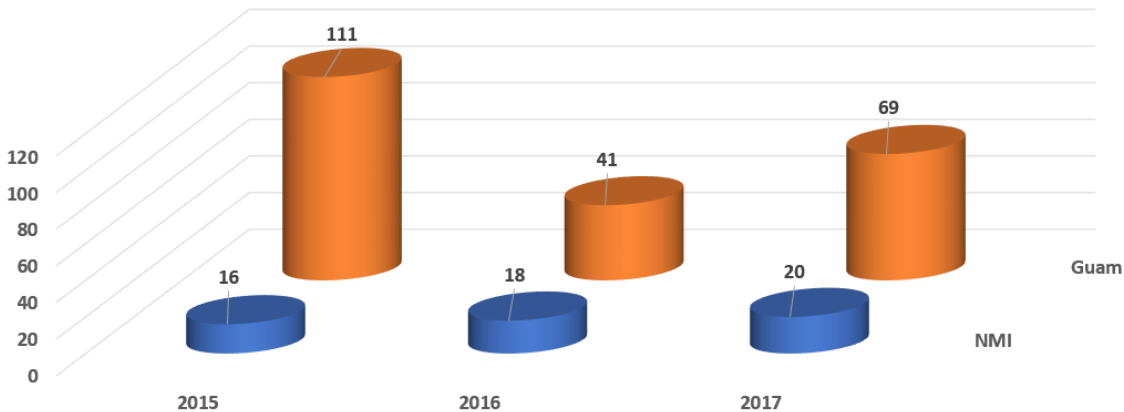
Events/Programs

In May 2017, the staff of the U.S. Probation Office took the lead in the planning and coordination of the first Annual Softball Tournament for Law Week 2017. Together with the District

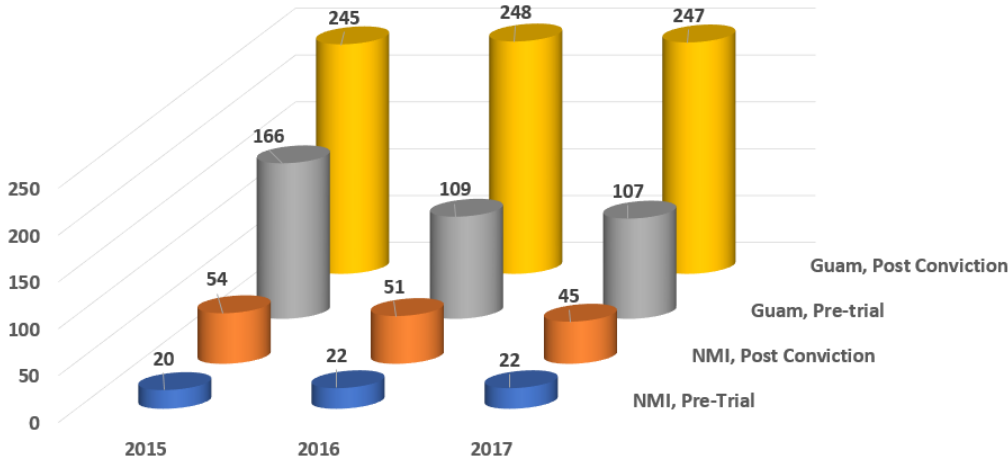
Court Clerk’s Office and the U.S. Marshals Service, a three-day tournament was organized. Other Judicial/ Law Enforcement Agencies were invited to participate.

In July 2017, Officer Santos began a MRT-Moral Reconation Therapy group for women. MRT is an intensive cognitive-behavioral counseling training program that combines education, group and individual counseling, and structured exercises designed to explore the dynamics and basic personality traits and foster moral development in treatment-resistant clients.

**U.S. Probation & Pretrial Services Office
Caseload Statistics
New Cases Activated
12 months ending September 30**



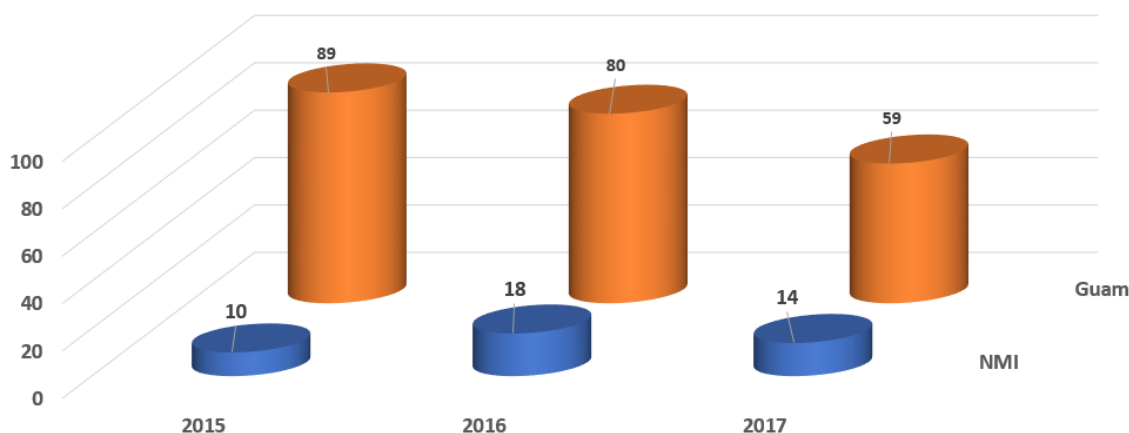
**Clients Supervised
12 months ending September 30**



U.S. Probation & Pretrial Services Office Caseload Statistics

Presentence Reports Completed

12 months ending September 30, 2017



Ninth Circuit Lawyer Representative

It has been my distinct pleasure to have served the court and the bar as the Ninth Circuit Lawyer Representative since 2010. It is hard to believe it has been that long! Please join me in welcoming the new Lawyer Representative, Cynthia Ecube, to the job. Cynthia and I have worked together on various District Court projects for many years, and I am confident that she will be quite successful in assisting the court and circuit in its legal education and civics outreach initiatives, rulemaking, conferences, and many other projects.

Law Week 2017

Our most significant education outreach in 2017, beside the District Conference, is our annual Law Week effort in April and May. The 2017 Law Week theme, chosen by the American Bar Association, was, “*The Fourteenth Amendment: Transforming American Democracy*.” We hosted a live streamed “Conversatorio” on that theme in the courthouse. The panel, moderated by Attorney Minakshi Hemlani, consisted of attorney and former Guam Senator Robert Klitzkie, Attorney Ignacio Aguigui, and former Congressman and

current President of the University of Guam, Dr. Robert Underwood. Other events included a Senior Citizens outreach, a Naturalization Ceremony, a street fair, a fitness challenge, and a softball tournament.

2018 District Conference

We are particularly excited to welcome to Guam Mr. David S. Addington, Senior Vice President, General Counsel, and Chief Legal Counsel for the National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB) and the Honorable M. Margaret McKeown, a Circuit Judge for the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit for today’s District Conference.

Mr. Addington will speak about issues related to taxes, insurance, and federal regulations. He will also share his experiences in the White House and his work as an attorney with a variety of national issues such as taxes, insurance, healthcare, and federal regulations.

Judge McKeown will give us a report on the Ninth Circuit, and later in the day, provide two presentations on ethics. The first, a panel discussion, will



Rodney J. Jacob
9th Circuit LRCC Representative

be “Ethics and the Organization”, and the second will be “The Changing Ethical Landscape of Litigation.”

I’m happy to announce that the Guam Bar Association, under the leadership of its new President, Jaqueline Terlaje and Board of Governors, will hold its 2018 Membership Meeting today during lunch at the District Conference. Please take part!

Lastly, attorneys Ladd Baumann and Nelson Xu will give us an update on Business Immigration Law in the afternoon.

Office of the United States Attorney

In 2017, the United States Attorney's Office (USAO) bid farewell to former U.S. Attorney Alicia A.G. Limtiaco, Assistant U.S. Attorney Clyde Lemons, and Carmelita San Nicolas, Secretary to the U.S. Attorney. Shawn N. Anderson, who was previously the First Assistant, is Interim U.S. Attorney for the Districts of Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands (NMI).

In the Criminal Division for the District of Guam, prosecutions of all drug offenses under Title 21 of the United States Code comprised almost 65% of the USAO's criminal caseload. Other prosecutions involving white collar crimes, immigration fraud, violent crimes, official corruption, national security, and failure to register under the Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act ranged from at least 2% to 10% of the remaining caseload. Overall, the USAO prosecuted more cases and defendants in fiscal and calendar year 2017 compared to FY and calendar year 2016.

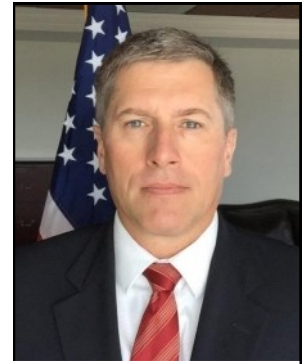
By the end of 2017, the total amount of civil and criminal forfeiture judgments entered was \$5,025,768.20 and a single family dwelling. The forfeited property represented substitute property, facilitating property, and proceeds derived from violations of wire fraud, money laundering, illegal gambling, visa fraud, and conspiracy to distribute methamphetamine. Some of these funds were deposited in the asset

forfeiture funds of the U.S. Department of Treasury and U.S. Department of Justice.

The Civil Division was active in defending the United States and its agencies and employees in 2017, and also increased its affirmative civil enforcement actions. The Division defended a number of cases and matters challenging the nation's border protection actions and policies in both Guam and the NMI. The Division defended against cases that were detrimental to the growing military projects in the islands. It also took affirmative steps to encourage a pivotal military presence and new projects. Bankruptcy actions, which included debts to federal programs and agencies, rose over the year. The Division was instrumental in protecting the public's interest in monetary recoveries.

Affirmative civil cases and matters have also risen with the inclusion of Qui Tam actions - cases that encourage whistle blowers who have knowledge of fraud against the public. Qui Tam actions have a lower standard of proof than criminal fraud prosecutions and can often succeed in penalizing and preventing fraud. Other cases challenged food stamp fraud, housing, and recruitment schemes.

Protecting the environment on Guam and in the NMI continues to be the primary focus of several cases. The Civil Division also initiated civil rights



Shawn N. Anderson
Interim U.S. Attorney

actions challenging the exclusion of persons from land and housing based on race or national origin. Court actions to improve the prison and to construct a safe and clean system to collect and dispose of the island's solid waste were substantially concluded during the year.

The Division's Financial Litigation Unit (FLU) recovered over \$648,949.15 in restitution for victims from defendants in criminal cases, and over \$3,221,423.80 from civil defendants who committed fraud and other civil violations.

The USAO conducted trainings and community outreaches in Guam, Saipan, Rota, and Tinian. They included Department of Justice initiatives such as the Red Ribbon Month Campaign, National Prescription Drug Take Back Initiative, Cyberbullying, and Human Trafficking Awareness Month.

Office of the Federal Public Defender

The Office of the Federal Public Defender (FPD) celebrates its 24th Anniversary this year with renewed optimism. The Guam FPD opened in 1994 as a branch of the Hawaii FPD and became an independent office in 2001.

Our office continues to provide zealous, effective representation for indigent clients charged with criminal offenses in federal court. Enshrined in our Constitution under the Sixth

Amendment, the right to assistance of counsel is a pillar of our adversarial system of justice and our government. *"If we are to keep our democracy,"* Judge Learned Hand cautioned in 1951, *"there must be one commandment: Thou shalt not ration justice."* Our office is dedicated to ensuring that this fundamental right remains real on Guam.

Our two attorney office along with a paralegal, IT expert and

administrative officer handles a full caseload. The majority of the Guam office caseload consists of methamphetamine hydrochloride or "ice" importation and distribution cases. Immigration offenses such as alien smuggling and passport fraud are the second largest portion of the caseload. The office also handles a number of theft of government property, wire fraud, bank embezzlement, Rule 20 transfers and firearm violation offenses.

The Office of the Federal Public Defender will continue the fight for a fair and just criminal justice system. There will be considerable changes in the federal judiciary in the upcoming year, especially with a number of open seats in the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, but we continue to look forward with optimism.

Biba Constitution yan Bill of Rights!



Staff of the Office of the Federal Public Defender: L to R: Lita Dueñas, Leilani Lujan, John Gorman, Renate Grimes, and Chris Mantanoña.

United States Marshals Service

The U.S. Marshals Service, District of Guam, continues to upgrade and refine our district's security services. Some of those measures include collaboration with Guam law enforcement entities and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. The courthouse's electronic security system is also being upgraded.

On the community side, the U.S. Marshals Service has developed a solid "warrants team" consisting of deputies from the Judiciary of Guam, Department of Corrections, the Guam Police Department, and federal immigration officers. This team apprehends local and federal fugitives and has been instrumental in apprehending hundreds of fugitives in Guam.

Concerted compliance checks of registered sex offenders who have been released by the federal or Guam courts are conducted annually on Guam and

on the Northern Mariana Islands. In 2017, 480 registered sex offenders were checked to assure they were compliant under release conditions established by the federal Adam Walsh Act. The U.S. Marshals Service is generally assisted by Judiciary of Guam marshals, Guam's Department of Corrections, and other federal agents in this task.

The U.S. Marshals Service Justice Prisoner Alien Transportation System (JPATS) coordinates and transports prisoners and detainees safely, securely, and humanely in a timely and economical manner. JPATS transports an average of approximately 70 federal prisoners to and from the U.S. mainland in 2017.

The District Court of Guam and the U.S. Marshals Service conducted an advanced training exercise called "Kontra I Peligro" to test the district's ability to counter threats such as terroristic acts. Under the guidance of the Department of the Army, the District Court of Guam may be the only federal court in the nation that has used simulated explosions and active shooter counter-terrorism training on-site.

The U.S. District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands has broken ground in Saipan for a new courthouse



**Frank Leon Guerrero
U.S. Marshal**

recently. Judicial Security Inspector Tanya Muña worked many long hours to complete the U.S. Marshals Service's operational requirements for the new building. The new courthouse is scheduled to be completed by the summer of 2019.



**The future courthouse of the U.S. District Court of the Northern Mariana Islands.
Photo Credit: Marianas Management Corporation.**

Events, Outreach, and Ceremonies

Ceremonial Swearing-In of the
Honorable Madeleine Z. Bordallo,
January 23, 2017



Hon. Madeleine Z. Bordallo is sworn in by Chief Judge Frances Tydingco-Gatewood.

Annual District Conference,
February 9, 2017



Chief Justice Katherine A. Maraman, Supreme Court of Guam, and Presiding Judge Alberto C. Lamorena III, Superior Court of Guam.



Attorney Joaquin C. Arriola, Sr. is surrounded by his family and judges of the Judiciary of Guam and the District Court of Guam upon being awarded the Cristobal C. Dueñas Excellence Award.



Professor Jonathan Turley, Conference Keynote Speaker

High School Mock Trial Teams



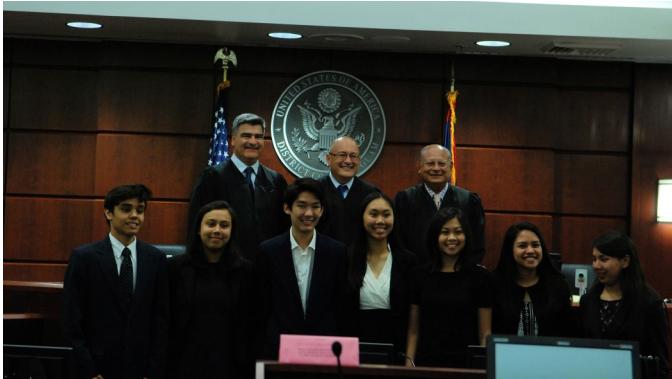
Simon Sanchez High School Mock Trial Team



Notre Dame High School Mock Trial Team

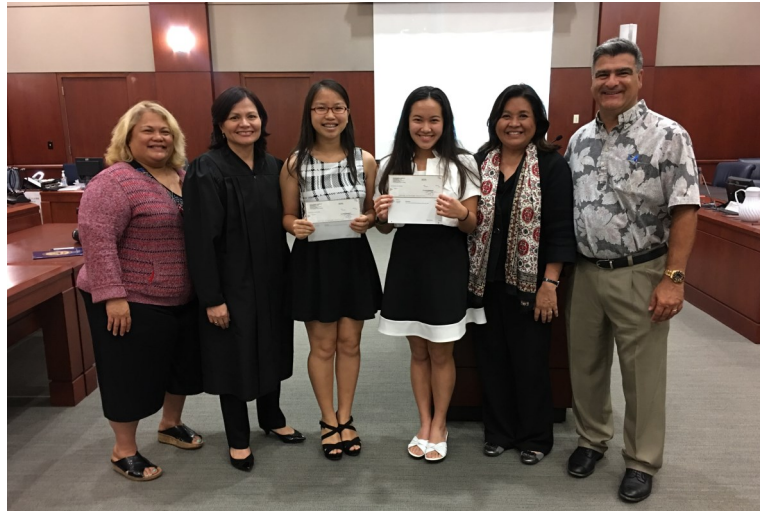
Community Outreach & Civics Education

High School Mock Trial Teams



St. John's School Mock Trial Team

Ninth Circuit Civics Contest Winners



L to R: Attorney Cynthia Ecube, Hon. Ramona V. Mangloña, Anne Wen, Raizel Yu, Hon. Frances Tydingco-Gatewood, and Attorney Rodney Jacob. Ms. Yu and Ms. Wen, from St. John's School, were the first place finalists in the local video contest.

14th Amendment Conversatorio, May 11, 2017



Panelists (L to R): Attorney Robert Klitzkie, Attorney Ignacio Aguigui, and Dr. Robert Underwood, President of the University of Guam.

Constitution & Citizenship Day, September 17, 2017



Students from the Academy of Lady of Guam participated in the Constitution and Citizenship Day event at the Guam Museum.



Participants in the Constitution and Citizenship Day event gathered at the theater of the Guam Museum.

District Court intern Carmen Victoria Terlaje (right) contributed significantly to the planning and execution of this event.



Outreach & Civics Education



Naturalization Ceremony

Guest Speakers



**Colonel Samuel G. White III,
Black History Month Naturalization,
February 23, 2017**



**Chief Justice Katherine A. Maraman,
Law Day Naturalization,
May 3, 2017**



**Captain Hans E. Sholley,
Independence Day Naturalization,
July 3, 2017**



**Ms. Joanne Brown, Port Authority of
Guam General Manager,
Constitution Day Naturalization,
September 18, 2017**



**Senator James Espaldon,
Filipino History Month Naturalization,
October 26, 2017**



**Senator Frank Aguon,
Veterans Day Naturalization,
November 9, 2017**



The Philippine Judges Association Visits the District Court, October 2, 2017

Federal Judges Break Ground for a New Courthouse for the District of the Northern Mariana Islands, December 7, 2017



L to R: U.S. Magistrate Judge Heather Kennedy, Chief Judge Frances Tydingco-Gatewood, and Chief Judge Ramona V. Mangloña

Federal and Military Bar Admissions



Edwin Torres,
December 11, 2017



Special Assistant United States Attorney,
Philip A. Kesaris,
June 13, 2017



Sean Brown,
November 2, 2017

2018 Cristobal C. Dueñas Excellence Award

Mr. Rodney J. Jacob was appointed in 2010 by Chief Judge Frances Tydingco-Gatewood as the Ninth Circuit Lawyer Representative for the District of Guam and served in that position until 2018. In that position, he joined 164 other Lawyer Representatives chosen to represent attorneys practicing in each of the Ninth Circuit's fifteen districts, which include nine western states and two Pacific Island jurisdictions.

As the District of Guam's Lawyer Representative, Mr. Jacob worked closely with the Chief Judge to improve the overall delivery of public service by the District Court of Guam by enhancing access to the court system and fostering open communication between lawyers and judges. As the primary liaison between the federal bench and the practicing federal bar, Mr. Jacob was tasked with chairing the Annual District Conference in accordance with national guidelines and was further tasked with publishing the Annual District Report for Guam and presenting that report to the Ninth Circuit. Mr. Jacob was instrumental in bringing many notable people to speak at the Annual District Conferences, including Justice Sonia Sotomayor of the

Supreme Court of the United States; Former Chief Judges of the Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit J. Clifford Wallace, Mary M. Schroeder, and Alex Kozinski; Ninth Circuit Judges Paul J. Watford, Jay S. Bybee, M. Margaret McKeown, Susan P. Graber, and N. Randy Smith; and Law Professors Kathleen M. Sullivan, Jonathan Turley, and Erwin Chemerinsky.

Mr. Jacob is currently a partner in Calvo Fisher & Jacob's Guam office, and his current clients include many local and Japanese corporations in Guam, the CNMI, and the United States. He has extensive experience representing commercial clients in complex cross-border litigation and mediation, with significant experience in Japan.

Mr. Jacob grew up in Tuscon, Arizona and attended Georgetown University, where he earned his Bachelor of Science degree in 1986, and his Juris Doctor degree in 1989. After graduating, he became a law clerk for the Hon. Lawrence Howard of the Arizona Court of Appeals, and in 1993 took a similar position with the Hon. Jose Dela Cruz, Chief Justice of the CNMI Supreme Court.



Rodney J. Jacob

Mr. Jacob is admitted to the State Bar of California, the Northern Mariana Islands Bar Association, and the Guam Bar Association. He served as President of the Guam Bar Association from 2005 to 2007.

The District Court of Guam expresses its utmost gratitude with a sincere "Dangkulu na Si Yu'us Ma'ase" to Mr. Jacob for his outstanding dedication, ethics, and professionalism in the practice of law and in service to the Ninth Circuit, the District Court of Guam and to the people of Guam.

Cristobal C. Dueñas, a graduate of the University of Michigan Law School, was appointed by President Richard M. Nixon on September 23, 1969 to be the first Chamorro judge for the District Court of Guam. On December 10, 1969, he was confirmed by the U.S. Senate and commissioned the next day. By December 24, 1969, he was officially sworn in as the Judge of the District Court of Guam. In June of 1977, Judge Dueñas was reappointed for a second term, and he retired as a Senior Judge in 1991. After a long and distinguished judicial career, Judge Dueñas died on February 14, 2010. He will long be remembered for his humility, courage, and keen intellect.





About the Front Cover

Cover Photograph (c) Simeon Palomo

The cover photograph, "Karabao" is from the book, "tropical art, GUAM", a 184-page art book with 161 uniquely crafted "tropical art" creations inspired by the natural and cultural beauty of Guam. The artist, Simeon Manibusan Palomo, created "tropical art" using cultural materials commonly found in his home island of Guam.

<http://tropicalartguam.webs.com>